

## MAMIE BRIDGEFORTH COUNCILWOMAN WEST WARD

November 1, 2000

The Honorable Sharpe James Mayor Room 200 City Hall Newark, New Jersey CITY HALL ROOM 304 920 BROAD STREET NEWARK, NEW JERSEY 07102 (973) 733-3794

Dear Mayor

On behalf of the Municipal Council Health Committee, I would like to bring to your attention and also seek your support and assistance on a new health initiative vital to the continued empowerment of Newark's African-American community.

Dr. Omar Bey, a Newark native and a founding member of Community United Providers, a non-profit consortium of Newark based minority physicians dedicated to the health education, wellness and empowerment of inner city residents, has announced the culmination of the organizations' first major initiative. A comprehensive directory exclusively listing African-American physicians and medical professionals practicing in the Northern New Jersey region. The complimentary directory will also serve as a resource guide to health related organizations, programs and other medical services important to inner city residents.

To date, the initiative has drawn a wide range of support and sponsorship from the mainstream medical community including US Healthcare, Aetna, Horizon, St. Barnabas Medical Systems, pharmaceutical companies, numerous medical associations and the religious community. In addition, the Commissioner of Health & Senior Services and the Director of Office of Minority Affairs have enthusiastically endorsed the project and have requested that they be included in the ceremony unveiling the project.

In this regard, I am requesting the use of the 2<sup>nd</sup> floor atrium as the appropriate venue for the ceremony and would be extremely appreciative if you will assist in the hosting of the event. The tentative dates for the event are Tuesday, November 28 or Wednesday, November 29.

I do hope your schedule will permit your attendance.

Sincerely

Chairperson

Municipal Council Health Committee

c: The Members of the Municipal Council